

Press Intelligence, Inc.  
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

NEW YORK POST

Circ.: e. 372,583  
S. 247,755

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Date: FEB 16 1954

STATINTL

# How U. S. Bagged Reds'

By Robert S. Allen

Washington, Feb. 16 - Chief credit for Yuri Rastvorov's spectacular defection to the U. S. belongs to an Air Force enlisted man.

For security reasons the airman's identity cannot be disclosed at this time, but when the full story of this fabulous feat can be told, he will be the brilliant hero of it.

His steely skill and courage induced the former Russian espionage chief to go over to the U. S.

Allan Dulles, head of Central Intelligence, also played a key role. He vitally assisted U. S. undercover agents, and personally obtained President Eisenhower's permission to offer Rastvorov asylum in America. The President kept abreast of every development in this matter.

Pending certain steps, the amazing details of Rastvorov's sensational renunciation cannot be disclosed. But the following can be reported:

Intelligence was fully aware of the presence and operations of the Kremlin spy. His confidence was won by the airman in the face of many obstacles and risks. It was a remarkable counterintelligence achievement. In a dramatic coup, Rastvorov was seized in the act of accepting secret documents from the airman.

In this desperate plight, the Russian had to choose between two alternatives.

One was an offer of American asylum if he made a clean breast of all he knew about Red spies and rings. The other option was either trial as a spy under Japanese law with death or long imprisonment in the event of conviction, or being sent back to Russia, where he would probably be shot because of close ties with the purged Beria.

At first, Rastvorov did some talking about having "diplomatic immunity," through being a mem-

ber of the Russian embassy staff. But he quickly dropped that pose when confronted with the mass of evidence against him.

After that, his concern was assurance he would be given safe refuge in the U. S.

Note: Congressional investigators are very eager to interrogate Rastvorov. Scrambling for these headlines are the House Un-American Activities Committee, the Senate Internal Security Committee, and Sen. McCarthy.

Intelligence has reported the Kremlin is increasing its troop strength in Eastern Europe. According to latest estimates, Russia now has 247 divisions in this region, an increase of 31 since January 1952 . . . Denmark, Norway and Sweden are joining in a plan to build a large hospital in South Korea. The unique project will cost \$5,000,000 . . . Since 1949, more than 1,200,00 East Germans have fled to the West. The total last year was 351,000 and refugees are still seeking asylum in West Germany at the rate of more than 500 a month.

Commerce Secretary Weeks ran into an unexpected challenge of his economy views at a private meeting with a House Appropriations Subcommittee.

The Bostonian had proudly explained that his new budget is \$8,000,000 less than this year's. This one per cent saving would have been greater, Weeks said, "but for the fact that we had to add \$74,000,000 for airmail subsidies which previously were in the Postoffice budget."

"That's fine," said Rep. John Rooney, N. Y., former Democratic chairman of the Committee. "You have a lot of credit due you, and I readily extend it. But there is one item you haven't told us anything about. This is an increase of 10 per cent in funds for your own office. Why is it that while you are cutting the funds of all other branches of your Department,

## Top Spy



you are asking for an increase for yourself?"

"There is a very good reason for that," replied Weeks. "To run a Department effectively, it is necessary to have good supervision, and that's where this additional money is going. By putting on more help at the top, I am convinced we can cut down expenses at the bottom."

"Yes, and a Department can also get top-heavy that way, too," asserted Rep. Otto Krueger (R.-N.D.).

Mrs. Charles Wilson, wife of the Defense Secretary, likes to giggle and makes no bones about it. However, she in encountering drawbacks, as she explains to friends, "I love to giggle, but sometimes I don't find anything to giggle at in Washington."